



**HB546 HD1
RELATING TO EDUCATION**

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Ho‘okolokolo a me ke Kuleana Hawai‘i

Pepeluali 24, 2021

2:00 p.m.

Lumi 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB546 HD1, which would facilitate the State’s kuleana to ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i by providing ‘Aha Pūnana Leo with “invited” member status on the state’s Early Learning Board (ELB). Because the perpetuation of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is so important to the evolving culture, health, and well-being of Native Hawaiians, this measure may be crucial to ensuring the continued use and growth of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in Hawai‘i and beyond.

‘Aha Pūnana Leo provides the ELB with a unique and highly-specialized perspective due to its predominant role in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i early learning education. **Although our state is constitutionally mandated “to promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and language[,]”¹ and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i has been an official state language since 1978,² much remains to be done to ensure the re-normalization of the Hawaiian language, and ‘Aha Pūnana Leo remains the only statewide early learning system conducted in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i immersion for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.** Since the inception of the ELB’s predecessor, the Early Learning Advisory Board, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo has consistently served as the board’s “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.”³

Unfortunately, the ELB seat historically filled by an ‘Aha Pūnana Leo representative is currently limited to two, 2-year consecutive terms.⁴ Thus, this “Hawaiian medium early learning provider” representative may not serve more than a maximum of four consecutive years. These term limits create a significant challenge for ‘Aha Pūnana Leo to find a representative with the requisite experience and institutional knowledge to consistently fill this highly-specialized position, and has limited the ability of ‘Aha Pūnana Leo to establish the continuous presence necessary to effectively advocate for the importance and value of a Hawaiian medium early education. Notably, this seat is currently empty and the ELB is suffering from the lack of ‘Aha Pūnana Leo’s voice, which has otherwise consistently

¹ HAW. CONST. ART. X SEC. 4.

² HAW. CONST. ART. XV SEC. 4.

³ The representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers shall serve a two-year term. HRS §302L-1.6(10).

⁴ HRS §302L-1.6(10) sets a two-year term for the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers; HRS § 26-34(a) provides that “[n]o person shall be appointed consecutively to more than two terms as a member of the same board or commission[.]”

ensured that all ELB members understand and recognize the essential role of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i medium programming in the development and education of Hawai‘i’s growing keiki.

OHA commends the tireless efforts of ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, which has always strived to ensure that ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i survives and thrives as a living language for future generations to come. By providing ‘Aha Pūnana Leo with an “invited” voting member seat, without term limits, HB546 HD1 will ensure a consistent Hawaiian medium voice on the ELB, as well as help to fulfill the greater mission to perpetuate and normalize the state’s official language of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i.

The strength and endurance of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is intrinsically connected to the health and wellbeing of the Native Hawaiian people, and it is part of what makes Hawai‘i an authentic, unique, and beautiful place for all our local keiki to enjoy, learn, and ultimately thrive. We therefore urge the Committee to **PASS** HB546 HD1.

E ola mau ka ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i!

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 2:00 p.m., Rm. 325

By
Bonnie Irwin
Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 546 HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

Aloha e nā alaka'i o ka 'aha'ōlelo o Hawai'i nei,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 546 HD1. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) supports the distinctive provisions of HB 546 HD1 relating to the representation of Hawaiian language medium education on early education. UH Hilo is home to Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian Language, who has been leading efforts to revitalize the Hawaiian language while also serving as a model to national and international indigenous communities who also seek to revive their endangered languages. With support from the Hawai'i State Legislature, UH Hilo/Ka Haka 'Ula has established a complete baccalaureate through to PhD program that offers high quality education to develop capacity for Hawaiian medium education and the further advancement of Hawaiian and indigenous languages writ large.

HB 546 is important legislation that needs to be passed. There is an extreme shortage of qualified individuals for all aspects of education through Hawaiian. This provision allows the state access to important contributions from the small pool of highly qualified individuals in this highly distinctive area of education of our state. Without this legislation, there is a danger that the state early education advisory board could have individuals without the necessary expertise to represent the interests of one of the most vulnerable populations in our schools – those attending schooling through Hawaiian in accordance with US policy expressed in the Native American Languages Act of 1990.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to submit testimony and support this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 23, 2021

TO: Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: **Measure:** H.B. No. 546 HD 1– RELATING TO EDUCATION
Hearing Date: Wednesday February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Videoconference

Bill Description: Amends the composition of the early learning board to make a representative from Aha Punana Leo a standing member. Effective 7/1/2050 (HD1)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING’S POSITION: Supports the Intent

Good afternoon. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL supports the intent on H.B. No. 546 HD 1– relating to education.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State’s early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children. The Early Learning Board (ELB) was established as a governing board through Act 202, SLH 2017.

ELB is responsible for directing the EOEL on how best to meet the developmental and educational needs of children, from prenatal care to entry into kindergarten; providing recommendations to EOEL on improving the quality, availability, and coordination of early learning programs; promoting collaboration across agencies and stakeholders serving young children; and appoint the EOEL director and evaluating the director on an annual basis.

THE ELB provides crucial input, direction, and oversight necessary for EOEL to achieve the statutory responsibilities of the Office. Representatives on the board are reflective of the diversity of the early care and education field in Hawaii, providing unique and important input on how to best serve Hawaii’s families and young children. Hawaii is the only state in the United States that has designated a native language, Hawaiian, as one of its two official state languages. The endurance of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is connected to the health and well-being of Native Hawaiian people and as such, the representative seat for Hawaiian medium early learning providers is a critical member and advocate for the important values of a Hawaiian medium early education.

The Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat is limited to two consecutive, two-year teams according to current statute. Thus, the representative cannot serve more than 4 years before terming out. The sense of the Board is that the term limit as provided is a barrier to continuity of experienced representation that the amended bill would address. The consistency of representation is the issue upon which many Board members agree. At the same time, there are some on the ELB who would like to investigate the composition of the Board given current needs and whether the proposed solution of making an APL representative a standing member is the best one moving forward to address the current barrier.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 7:14:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Holeka Goro Inaba	County of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB 546 which will expressly recognize 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo as an "invited" voting member of the ELB not subject to term limits. We must do what we can to support the continued revival of 'ÅCElelo Hawai'i in our community and schools. Mahalo for your consideration.

Holeka Inaba

Hawai'i County Councilmember, District 8 (North Kona)

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 7:11:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lehua Kaulukukui	Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Lehua Kaulukukui,

Chair, Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium



Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo to the House Committee
on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

96 Pu'uuhonu Place
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 935-4304
(808) 969-7512
ahapunanaleo.org

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2p
Location: Conference Room 325

HB 546 HD1: Relating to Education

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

- Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena
- 'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo
- Larry Kimura
- William H. Wilson
- Ki'ope Raymond
- Keawe Lopes

Aloha Representative Nakashima, Chair and Representative Matayoshi, Vice-Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs;

'O wau 'o Ka'iulani Laehā, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo. Kāko'o 'ia HB546 HD1.

My name is Ka'iulani Laehā, CEO, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo supports HB546 HD1; Amends the composition of the early learning board to make a representative from Aha Punana Leo a standing member, not subject to term limits.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

- Pūnana Leo o Hilo
- Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
- Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
- Pūnana Leo o Maui
- Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
- Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae
- Pūnana Leo o Kona
- Pūnana Leo o Waimea
- Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
- Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
- Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
- Pūnana Leo o Hāna

As the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning provider, we advocated for and have served to represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system on the Early Learning Board (ELB). 'Aha Pūnana Leo has identified the need to better facilitate continued representation on the ELB to ensure Hawaiian medium education programs hold representation alongside other early childhood care providers to promote the development of our keiki and also help to normalize the Hawaiian language. HB546 HD1 allows for sustaining the effort to represent Hawaiian medium early learning for our 'ohana and future generations. We urge you to pass this bill.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide support HB 546 HD1.

Mahalo,

Ka'iulani Laehā



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 Time 2:00 PM Place: Via Videoconference

Testimony of Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna

HB 546, HD 1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION. **STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee:

We, Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna, a group of kūpuna Hawaiian homestead farmers committed to the well-being of Hawai'i for the next generations to come, **are in strong support of HB 546, HD 1.**

HB 546, HD 1 amends the composition of the Early Learning Board (ELB) to make a representative from the 'Aha Pūnana Leo a standing member. This measure will better ensure that the ELB has continuous and consistent representation from the state's predominant Hawaiian medium early learning provider, the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. Passing this measure will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian medium voice on the ELB.

We urge this Committee to PASS HB 546, HD 1. Mahalo.

Ua mau ke ea o ka 'āina i ka pono!



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 ahapunanaleo.org

Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Hilo**

Ka Papa Alaka'i

Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

The **Pūnana Leo o Hilo** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Nā Papahana Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: 'Iwa Kuamo'o

Kumu: Nohea Astrand

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Hilo



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Waimea**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena
 'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura
 William H. Wilson
 Ki'ope Raymond
 Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
 Time: 2:00 P.M.
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RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Waimea** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo
 Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
 Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
 Pūnana Leo o Maui
 Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
 Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe
 Pūnana Leo o Kona
 Pūnana Leo o Waimea
 Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
 Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
 Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
 Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Maluhia O'Donnell
 Kumu: Kāhealani Tanimoto
 Ke Kōmike Makua, **Pūnana Leo o Waimea**



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Kona**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
 Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
 Kākau'Ōiēlo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Kī'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
 Time: 2:00 P.M.
 Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

The **Pūnana Leo o Kona** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Nā'ai Colburn

Kumu: Akelina Tibayan

Ke Kōmike Makua, **Pūnana Leo o Kona**

- Pūnana Leo o Hilo
- Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
- Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
- Pūnana Leo o Maui
- Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
- Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae
- Pūnana Leo o Kona
- Pūnana Leo o Waimea
- Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
- Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
- Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
- Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Maui**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Maui** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Kili Namau'u

Kumu: Mailelani Namau'u

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Maui



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Lahaina**

Ka Papa Alaka'i

Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
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RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

The **Pūnana Leo o Lahaina** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

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Nā Papahana Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Leilei Ishikawa

Kumu: Karyn Kanekoa

Ke Kōmike Makua, **Pūnana Leo o Lahaina**



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Hāna**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
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RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Hāna** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Kaimana Cabebe

Kumu: Maleka Tolentino

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
 Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
 Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāne

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: U'i Ramos

Kumu: Aulani Herrod

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Mānoa**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena
 'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura
 William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond
 Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
 Time: 2:00 P.M.
 Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

The **Pūnana Leo o Mānoa** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing

Kumu: Tiara Iokepa

Ke Kōmike Makua, **Pūnana Leo o Mānoa**



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Honolulu**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena
 'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura
 William H. Wilson
 Ki'ope Raymond
 Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325
RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Honolulu** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui
 Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi
 Kula Kamali'i
 Pūnana Leo o Hilo
 Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
 Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
 Pūnana Leo o Maui
 Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
 Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae
 Pūnana Leo o Kona
 Pūnana Leo o Waimea
 Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
 Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
 Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
 Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Leimomi Anderson
Kumu: Kamaka Ligon
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Honolulu



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Ka Papa Alaka'i Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko**
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā Pelekikena **Date:** February 24, 2021
 'Alohilani Rogers **Time:** 2:00 P.M.
 Kākau'Ōlelo **Location:** State Capitol, Conference Room 325
 Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson **RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION**
 Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele The **Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the
Chief Executive Officer specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide
Ka Luna Ho'okō Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to
Chief Operating Officer providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be
 K. Sean Kekina crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as
 reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian
Aukukui medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain
Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will
Kula Kamali'i help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the
 Pūnana Leo o Hilo development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing
 Pūnana Leo o Honolulu the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass
 Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i HB546 HD1!
 Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i Mahalo nui loa!
 Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona
 Pūnana Leo o Waiimea **Kahu: Kaipō Maika'i-Kahana'oi**
 Pūnana Leo o Mānoa **Kumu: Kāhea Chang**
 Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko **Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko**
 Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
 Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōi'ele

Larry Kimura
 William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond
 Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahāna
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Keali'i Rasmussen

Kumu: Ku'ulei Alves

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

- Pūnana Leo o Hilo
- Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
- Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
- Pūnana Leo o Maui
- Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
- Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae
- Pūnana Leo o Kona
- Pūnana Leo o Waimea
- Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
- Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
- Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
- Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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Testimony from **Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i**

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōi'ele

Larry Kimura
 William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond
 Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
 Time: 2:00 P.M.
 Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The **Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i** supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu: Wai'alo'ha Fernandes

Kumu: Pūnohu Meade

Ke Kōmike Makua, **Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i**



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Testimony from 'Aha Pūnana Leo – Ke'ena Kula Kamali'i

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Date: February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: SUPPORT H.B. 546 H.D. 1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha e Representative, Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, Representative, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer
 Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer
 K. Sean Kekina

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo – Ke'ena Kula Kamali'i supports HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pūnana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by 'Aha Pūnana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaula'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

The term limits imposed on 'Aha Pūnana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa!

Luna Ho'okele KKK: Pualani Kaho'ohanohano

Manakia Ke'ena KKK: Kainani Medeiros

Laekahi 'Ōnaehana KKK: Kayla Asing

Kāko'o Ke'ena KKK: Avina Keli'ikoa

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:34:18 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mahina Paishon Duarte	Kanaeokana	Support	No

Comments:



February 23, 2021

TO: House Committees on Education and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

FR: Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network

RE: HB546 HD1: Relating to Composition of Early Learning Board

Aloha Representatives:

Kanaeokana, the Kula Hawai'i Network which includes membership of the 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo, DOE Hawaiian Language Immersion Program sites, all 17 Hawaiian Focused Charter Schools (HFCS), and over 50 other Hawaiian education organizations, is in support of HB546 to ensure a permanent seat for an 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo representative on the State's Early Learning Board.

As a Hawaiian education network, Kanaeokana's mission is to collaboratively develop and strengthen a Native Hawaiian education system—built on a strong 'Å• lelo Hawai'i and 'ike Hawai'i foundation—to grow and sustain aloha 'Å• ina leaders. Ensuring that a member on this board is a proponent of Hawaiian language medium/Hawaiian language immersion learning will provide a voice of

advocacy for all current Hawaiian medium preschools and help the Native Hawaiian community to increase opportunities for early childhood education via the medium of Hawaiian. This option will increase the participation of Native Hawaiian families in early childhood learning programs.

Therefore, we strongly urge both the Education and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs committees to support this bill.

Me Ka 'Oia'i'o

Mahina Paishon-Duarte, Co-Chair

Elena Farden, Co-Chair

KÅ• mike Advocacy

Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:57:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariah Alves	Makuahine, Kanaka Hawai'i and Kumu ?Olelo Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

O au ʻo Kuʻeʻulei Alves. He manu au ma lalo o ka ʻAha Pūnana Leo ma ke ʻano he Kahu, ma ke ʻano pūnana he Kumu Alakaʻi. Kākou piha au i ka ʻae ʻana i ka ʻAha Pūnana Leo e noho ma ko ka mokuʻāina ʻo Hawaiʻi Early Learning Board (ELB) me ka palena ʻole o ka noho kōmike ʻana. ʻOia he ʻelua (2) ʻlilo kōhelu ma lalo o kāia mokuʻāina ʻo Hawaiʻi, he kuleana nui ko ka mokuʻāina e mālama mau ai i ko kākou ʻlilo ʻlitiwi o kāia ʻāina ʻo ia hoʻi ʻo ka ʻlilo Hawaiʻi. Me ia manaʻo, he noi haʻaahaʻa kāia e ʻae nū i ka ʻAha Pūnana Leo e noho ma kāia papa ELB ma ke ʻano he ʻelele kōmau me ka nā nā ʻole i ka palena noho. Inā ʻae ʻia nū kāia pila, e hiki ana i ka ʻAha Pūnana Leo e noho a hoʻokele i nā hā iā wai pili i ka ʻlilo Hawaiʻi a me ka hoʻonaʻauao keiki ʻana. He koʻikoʻi nui kāia, a he kuleana nū kāia no ʻoukou e noho ana ma ka ʻAha ʻlilo 2021.

Mahalo nui ko ʻoukou heluhelu ʻana mai.

Me ke aloha ʻāina,

na Mariah Kuʻeʻulei Alves

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

PERSONS TESTIFYING: Kaulanakilohana (members of the consortium of early childhood education higher education faculty in Hawai'i)

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2021

TIME: 2:00 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room # 325

TITLE OF BILL: HB 546 HD1

Honorable Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, Representatives Ichiyama, Kobayashi, LoPresti, Lowen, McKelvey, Nakamura, Takumi, Todd, Kunane Tokioka, and Ward

We, members of Kaulanakilohana, the Early Childhood Education Higher Education Faculty, **strongly support HB 546.**

HB 546 will allow for a stable and consistent Hawaiian language medium voice on the Early Learning Board (ELB).

The current statute sets a two-term limit for this seat. This negatively impacts the continuity of representation for the Hawaiian language medium programs on the ELB because of the small group of people who can potentially serve in this role. Currently, because of these limits, the seat remains vacant on the ELB. 'Aha Pūnana Leo serves a unique purpose in Hawai'i's early learning system and the representation provided by this critical seat is vital to nurturing understanding and wisdom on the part of the ELB with regard to matters of importance to Native Hawaiian people. The organization has advised that because of the specialized knowledge required, continuity in representation would best serve the needs of the organization as well as the ELB when it comes to matters concerning Hawaiian language medium early learning programs. This measure is affirmed by testimony from the ELB and Executive Office of Early Learning.

As members of Kaulanakilohana, we believe that passage of **HB 546**, which provides an exemption from a member serving more than two consecutive terms, will allow the Hawaiian language medium early learning providers' seat on the ELB to be better represented through a consistent designee. Knowledge of these unique programs and institutional and policy expertise, is required to effectively advocate for the programs. Additionally, a stable board member will create the longevity needed to foster the reciprocal relationships necessary to impart wisdom to the ELB members as they engage in policy work. It will help members to intentionally impact programs for Native Hawaiian keiki and their 'ohana as well as avoid making decisions that result in unintended negative consequences. A consistent representative will also allow the ELB to stay current with the issues and vital work underway to revitalize Native Hawaiian language and culture that require consideration as we build an early learning system.

We are mindful of the need to build a system that will *perpetuate and normalize* ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, one of our two official languages as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the Hawai‘i State constitution.

For the above reasons, **we strongly support HB 546.**

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on this matter,

Kaulanakilohana

(Early Childhood Education Higher Education Faculty in Hawai‘i)

University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Ka Haka ‘Uka O Ke‘elikōlani - Noelani Iokepa-Guerrero, PhD

Hawai‘i Community College - Janet Smith, MA; and Brenda Watanabe, MEd

Honolulu Community College - Ann Abeshima, EdD; Elizabeth Hartline, MA; Eva Moravcik; Caroline Soga, PhD; Laurie Ann Takeno, EdM; and Cyndi Uyehara, MEd

Kaua‘i Community College - Antonia Fujimoto, MA

University of Hawai‘i at West O‘ahu - Susan Adler, PhD

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa - Christopher Au, PhD; Robyn Chun, MEd; Richard Johnson, EdD; Theresa Lock, EdD; Leah Muccio, PhD

University of Hawai‘i Maui College - Julie Powers, MA; Gemma Medina, MEd

Chaminade University - Elizabeth Park, PhD and Yan Yan Imamura, MEd.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

PERSONS TESTIFYING: Kaulanakilohana (members of the consortium of early childhood education higher education faculty in Hawai'i)

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2021

TIME: 2:00 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room # 325

TITLE OF BILL: HB 546 HD1

Honorable Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, Representatives Ichiyama, Kobayashi, LoPresti, Lowen, McKelvey, Nakamura, Takumi, Todd, Kunane Tokioka, and Ward

We, members of Kaulanakilohana, the Early Childhood Education Higher Education Faculty, **strongly support HB 546.**

HB 546 will allow for stability of a Hawai'i-medium voice to remain present on the Early Learning Board (EL Board). There is a two-term limit for this seat which limits the continuity of the representative of the Hawaiian-medium programs on the EL Board; because of these limits the seat remains vacant on the ELB currently.

We, the members of Kaulanakilohana, believe that the passage of **HB 546**, which provides an exemption from a member serving more than two consecutive terms, will allow the Hawaiian-medium early learning providers' seat on the ELB to be better represented through consistent representation. HB 546 will help to eliminate challenges and barriers for this seat to remain *continuously and consistently* filled, and will ensure a Hawaiian-medium voice on the EL Board.

Having an EL Board with Hawaiian-medium early learning providers represented will only help the State of Hawai'i *to realize the greater goal of perpetuating and normalizing 'Ōlelo Hawai'i for future generations. Hawai'ian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by 'Aha Pūnana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing 'Ōlelo Hawai'i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the Hawai'i State constitution.*

For the above reasons, we **(strongly)** support HB 546.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on this matter,

Kaulanakilohana

(Early Childhood Education Higher Education Faculty in Hawai'i)

Chaminade University - Elizabeth Park, PhD and Yan Yan Imamura, MEd.

Hawai'i Community College - Janet Smith, MA; and Brenda Watanabe, MEd

Honolulu Community College - Ann Abeshima, EdD; Elizabeth Hartline, MA; Eva Moravcik; Caroline Soga, PhD; Laurie Ann Takeno, EdM; and Cyndi Uyehara, MEd

Kaua'i Community College - Antonia Fujimoto, MA

University of Hawai'i at Hilo Ka Haka 'Uka O Ke'elikōlani - Noelani Iokepa-Guerrero, PhD

University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu - Susan Adler, PhD

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa - Christopher Au, PhD; Robyn Chun, MEd; Richard Johnson, EdD; Theresa Lock, EdD; Leah Muccio, PhD

University of Hawai'i Maui College - Julie Powers, MA; Gemma Medina, MEd

To: Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Robert G. Peters, Chair
Early Learning Board

Subject: **Measure:** HB 546, HD 1, Relating to Education
Hearing Date: Thursday, February 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 PM
Location: **Via Video Conference**, Conference Room 325

Description: Amends the composition of the early learning board to make a representative from Aha Punana Leo a standing member. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD 1)

Early Learning Board Position: Supports the Intent with Comment

I am Robert G. Peters, Chair of the Early Learning Board (ELB). Thank you for this opportunity to offer written testimony in support of the intent of HB 546, HD 1 on behalf of the Early Learning Board.

Through Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, ELB transitioned from an advisory to a governing board for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) and is charged with formulating statewide policy relating to early learning.

The ELB is composed of 17 representatives from across the early childhood field, in both the public and private sectors. One of those members is the representative of the Hawaiian medium early learning providers.

Hawaii has designated Hawaiian as one of its two official state languages. As such, and to insure the ELB reflects the diversity of the early learning community, the representative for Hawaiian medium early learning providers is a critical member and advocate for the important values of a Hawaiian medium early education. `Aha Punana Leo (APL) is currently the only provider of Hawaiian immersion statewide that offers programs for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. To date, the Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat has been filled by a representative of `Aha Punana Leo for both the Early Learning Board and its earlier iteration, the Early Learning Advisory Board.

The Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat is limited to two consecutive, two-year teams according to current statute. Thus, the representative cannot serve more than 4 years before terming out. The sense of the Board is that the term limit as provided is a barrier to continuity of experienced representation that the amended bill would address. The consistency of representation is the issue upon which a majority of Board members agree; at the same time, there are some on the ELB who would like to investigate the composition of the Board given current needs and whether the proposed solution of making an APL representative a standing member is the best one moving forward to address the current barrier.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of the intent of HB 546, HD 1 with comments. Please know that while I am not able to attend this hearing and offer testimony in person, I am willing to answer any questions from the Committee via email or in person at another time.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 2:31:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kakool!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 3:49:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support hb546 hd1

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 5:40:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deb Chaves	UH Manoa	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 5:42:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsey Amos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and the representation it would guarantee for Punana Leo schools

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 5:44:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vanessa Lee Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 5:46:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandi Cutler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 5:55:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christina Kaleiwahea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha--Please support HB 546 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 6:05:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold K Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a parent whose children benefitted from the PÅ«nana Leo Hawaiian Immersion Pre-school program and who continue to benefit from the Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian Immersion program. **I am in full support of HB546 HD1.**

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 7:19:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Alapai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please allow a Punana Leo representative to sit at the table to help, assist and/or guide decisions to be made regarding Olelo for younger future generations.

Thank you,

Aaron

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 8:45:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Ann K Poire	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sample Testimony:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Supporting Hawaiian Medium Early Learning and ‘Aha Pūnana Leo

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come.

I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Cathy Ferreira

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 9:13:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jilleina Winchester	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits.

The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field.

This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come.

Aha Punana Leo has given my Ohana the opportunity to restore the culture we were once deprived of and I support the need for the seat term to be without limits in order to continue the normalization of ĀĀlelo Hawai’i without pause. For these reason, I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui,

Jilleina Winchester

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 9:14:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kailani Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Congress people,

Please support this Bill and promote equity and empowerment for the language of the land of Hawai'i. Our 'olelo makuahine has struggled to survive, yet survive she has and as she continues now to thrive, she is a lovely blessing to us all. Be a part of the legacy of giving this gift to the world. Mahalo a nui loa for your support of this deserving opportunity to be a full member and allow her to have a permanent voice in her homeland.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Kailani Ross

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 9:22:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy M. McPherson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha - Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 9:48:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I'm a Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) and a lifelong resident in my ancestral homelands. I'm writing in strong support of HB546 HD1.

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo's historically-filled seat for "Hawaiian medium early learning providers" have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

me ke aloha 'Ä• ina,

Nanea Lo

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 10:50:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leialoha Ilae-Kaleimamahu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 5:04:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taffi Wise	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 6:24:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Banner Fanene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Talofa -

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits.

Fa'afetai

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:01:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jen Jenkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Jen J.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:19:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelley Uyeoka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kakou, Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:28:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Urge passage. I continue to support this bill. Elevating the CEO of 'Aha Punana Leo to a standing member status on the Early Learning Board would assure continued, informed, experienced contributions to shaping the education of Hawaii's keiki.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:38:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. William H. Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

I write in support of HB 546. My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I am an education focused applied linguist at the Hawaiian language college mandated by the State Legislature in 1996 and established at UH Hilo in response to that mandate. I have particular interest in issues of equity for Indigenous linguistic minorities. I teach from preschool through to the Ph.D. both with Hawaiian students and Native American students. Part of my duties include providing service to national organizations as an expert in providing equity to Indigenous language minorities.

The Hawai'i State Legislature has been a national leader in addressing issues of equity for Indigenous peoples of the United States through legislation such as HB 546 now before you and other unique support for Hawaiian language medium early education as done in the 2020 Session. One of the national educational equity-focused organizations with which I have worked uses a cartoon illustrating the difference between "equality" giving all the exact same thing (without changing unequal outcomes) and "equity" (targeting distinct challenges to assure equal outcomes). I submit that cartoon as part of this testimony.

HB 546 is equity legislation. It assures that the state board tasked with issues of early learning has representation with expertise in the area of Hawaiian language medium education. It does so by naming to that board the one organization guaranteed to be able to provide such expertise and allowing it to lend such expertise to the state from its own small human resource base with an equity provision related to length of individual service. I know that the 'Aha Pānana Leo has that expertise and is willing to carry out that responsibility, as I am privileged to serve as a volunteer member on its board.

HB 546 is important legislation that needs to be passed. Without this legislation, there is a danger that the state early education advisory board could have individuals without the necessary expertise to represent the interests of one of the most vulnerable populations in our schools – those attending schooling through Hawaiian in accordance with US policy expressed in the Native American Languages Act of 1990.

As I said earlier, Hawai'i, under legislative bills such as HB 546 has a proud history of national leadership in this area. However, much more needs to be done. A well known example of what happens when proper "equity" attention (versus "equality" attention) is not given to Hawaiian language issues are the Clarabal case from LÄ• na'i. The Hawai'i State Department of Education using standard "equality" approaches (rather than "equity" solutions) have still not solved the Clarabal issue since the LÄ• na'i community first met to ask for an program in December 2013 – seven years ago.

Other areas where there are Hawaiian language issues, include, but are not limited to, access to Hawaiian language courses in high schools, challenges to providing appropriate Hawaiian language courses to Hawaiian speakers regardless of where they are in the University of Hawai'i system, assuring DOE and charter Hawaiian medium schools teachers to hire who have both full proficiency in Hawaiian and subject area content matter knowledge. These things can be addressed and addressed without huge expense if the State Legislature thinks "out of the box" and takes the lead with bold "equity" legislation like HB 546. I strongly urge you to pass HB 546

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify. (I will send the cartoon to the committee chair.)

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:48:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thea Shapiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Mā• lama pono,

Thea Shapiro

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:08:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kainalu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:22:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cherilee Spencer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

He Makua PÅ«nana Leo au - I am a PÅ«nana Leo Parent

As a Kanaka Maoli and part of the PÅ«nana Leo `Ohana, I feel that it is crucial and holds great kuleana to have a member of `Aha PÅ«nana Leo as a voting member to establish and facilitate the State's kuleana to `ÅCElelo Hawai`i.

This is truly an important part of our culture, our people, our kuleana; to revitalize our native tongue and keep it stronger we must all do our part.

As a makua, I see how our language and heritage takes great form on our Keiki. Our keiki learn to embrace the culture and revitalizing `ÅCElelo Hawai`i.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:30:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
McLean Eames	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:43:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Velda N Akamu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium Voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha PunanĀ• Leo with an invited member status, not subject to term limits.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:54:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Olan Leimomi Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please **PASS** HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:55:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Keli'i Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please **PASS** HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:11:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehau Jahn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the recognition of 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo as an invited voting member of the ELB not subjected to term limits. The APL has been a champion for the resurrection of the Hawaiian language through early childhood education - their importance and presence is necessary to continue the growth and perpetuation of the Hawaiian language and should be facilitated without restrictions that only hinder progression.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:22:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiki Kawaiaea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha e ke kÅ• mike Ho'okolokolo a Kuleana Hawai'i,

The Early Learning Board (ELB) has members across the state to focus on early learners' needs. As a state with two official languages, the 'Aha Punana Leo has addressed a critical need for nearly 40 years as the largest provider of Hawaiian Immersion preschools in the state. It is responsible and appropriate to ensure a voice for Hawaiian immersion early education by securing a seat for the 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo on the ELB.

As a Hawaiian language immersion educator, parent and grandparent, I can attest to the importance of early education through Hawaiian. The 'Aha Punana Leo is key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched Hawaiian-medium early education opportunities. The PÅ«nana Leo schools are also the major Hawaiian-medium early education feeder schools for K-12 Hawaiian immersion education across the state.

I support and ask you to please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. The representative seat should have an "invited" member status, not subject to term limits. Your support will ensure continuous and consistent Hawaiian immersion early education representation on the Early Learning Board.

HB546 HD1 will also help to sustain a voice for Hawaiian-medium early education on the Early Learning Board to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for the future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:37:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Werner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

Me ke aloha,

Kamuela Werner

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:58:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

KĀ• ko‘o. E Ola ka ‘ĀĀelelo Hawai‘i.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:04:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kendra Tidwell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:29:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kauahi Perez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits.

The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field.

This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

Mahalo nui loa,

Kauahi Perez

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:33:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Jury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 23, 2021

To: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)

To Whom It May Concern,

Aloha my name is Linda Jury and I am writing to support HB546 HD1. As a Hawaiian Language teacher, mother, native Hawaiian and active community member, I urge you to consider this bill!

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

As an ‘ohana of the PÅ«nana Leo ‘O Wai‘anae, we directly see the benefits of Hawaiian medium education for not only our keiki, but our entire ‘ohana. We know that there are benefits of connecting our family back to our ‘Å• lelo makuahine in ways that help us reconnect to our identity as Hawaiians. The effects of colonization has taken our education system by force for too long and left us without any means of communicating in our own language in schools. Since the establishment of PÅ«nana Leo, our language has made a comeback. We can see the fruit of these labors living in the tongues of ‘ohana that have

made a commitment to the revival of our ‘Ā• lelo Hawai‘i. Not only do we support providing an “invited” member status to Aha PĀ«nana Leo, but we also encourage more financial support for this program so that it can continue to serve ‘ohana across the state. It is time for our education system to make Hawaiian a priority!

Me ka mana‘o‘i‘o,

Linda Jury

‘Ohana Jury

Wai‘anae, ‘O‘ahu,Community Member

‘Ohana PĀ«nana Leo ‘o Wai‘anae

Teacher

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:33:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Summer Barrett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:37:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Devon Haia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:37:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josiah Jury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 23, 2021

To: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)

To Whom It May Concern,

Aloha my name is Josiah Jury and I am writing to support HB546 HD1. As a native Hawaiian and active community member, I urge you to consider this bill!

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1!

As an 'ohana of the PĀ«nana Leo 'O Wai'anae, we directly see the benefits of Hawaiian medium education for not only our keiki, but our entire 'ohana. We know that there are benefits of connecting our family back to our 'Ā• lelo makuahine in ways that help us reconnect to our identity as Hawaiians. Since the establishment of PĀ«nana Leo, our language has made a comeback and I would like for their efforts to be supported so we can continue to help our language thrive in our communities. Not only do we support providing an “invited” member status to Aha PĀ«nana Leo, but we also encourage more financial support for this program so that it can continue to serve 'ohana across the state. It is time for our education system to make Hawaiian a priority!

Me ka mana'o'i'o,

Josiah Jury

'Ohana Jury

Wai'anae, 'O'ahu,Community Member

'Ohana PĀ«nana Leo 'o Wai'anae

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:53:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ahonui Mims	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai,

Kā• ko’o au i ka pila HB546 HD1 ‘oiai ko’iko’i ka ho’olohe ‘ana i ka leo mai ka ‘Aha Pā«nana Leo ‘oiai ola ka ‘Ā«lelo Hawai’i ma ia papahana a he ‘Ā• lelo kā«helu o kā“ia pae‘Ā• ina ‘o Hawai’i.

Na‘u nĀ• ,

Ahonui Mims

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 11:59:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leilani Bronson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits.

The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

Mahalo nā• ,

Leilani Bronson

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:06:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamahao Kaai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou, 'O Kamaha'o Kaai ko'u inoa. Kākou wau kāia palapala HB546 HD1. Aloha everyone, my name is Kamaha'o Kaai and I support this Bill, HB546 HD1. I ask that you folks pass the HB546 HD1 Bill and allow there to be a voice on behalf of the 'Aha Pānana Leo without limits to how much time or terms they are allowed to serve on the Early Learning Board. Allowing a member to serve our 'ĀĀelelo Hawai'i community without limitations allows the member to do their best in ensuring the vitalization and perpetuation of our 'ĀĀelelo Hawai'i and ensuring that our keiki (children) are given opportunity to thrive in Hawaiian medium education for generations to come. I respectfully ask you folks to pass the HB546 HD1. Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:15:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiana Galario	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Kā• kou!

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing 'Aha Pā•nana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by ‘Aha Pā•nana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on ‘Aha Pā•nana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:18:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Wakelin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:23:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Misti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the continuation of the revitalization of the learning of our children of Hawai'i. By passing this bill, it will almost ensure and secure a voice for our people, our babies in the future and the families of the Hawaiian Language programs. As a parent and 'ohana apart of the Hawaiian Language program (also a graduate of these programs) it is important to my family and I to ensure the Hawaiian Learning for our babies of today and in the future. Therefore, i respectfully urge you to HB564 HD1, Mahalo nui for your time.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:39:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maile Lavea-Malloe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha e na alakai o Hawaii,

I, along with my husband and our keiki, stand in full support of this measure and appreciate all of the great work by community leaders towards the revitalization of the Hawaiian language. E OLA MAU LOA KA OLELO HAWAII!

Mahalo nui,
Maile Lavea-Malloe
Ka Ohana Lavea-Malloe

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 12:56:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PeeWee Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 1:20:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna K Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a Native Hawaiian from Kaua`i.

I humbly ask that you please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits.

The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come.

Again, I respectfully ask that HB546 be passed.

Mahalo,

Donna K. Santos

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 1:49:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iolani Ulii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 1:57:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Waia'u	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill as it will offer a standing seat at the table for a representative from 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo. This will help further perpetuate and normalize 'ÅCElelo Hawai'i for generations to come. It all starts with our keiki. HÅ• nai ke keiki, ola ka LÅ• hui.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 2:02:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren A Holomalia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will allow for a consistent, continuous and pertinent voice from a Hawaiian-medium on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. As both an educator for the Department of Education and a māhū kua (parent) of an Aha Punana Leo haumāna (student), I can attest to the quality of culturally enriched programming and opportunities presented to the keiki of Hawai‘i through Aha Punana Leo. They have sparked a long lost sense of belonging and kōleana to the Hawaiian culture, beginning with it’s language. They have provided my daughter a pathway and foundation towards becoming a vessel in the perpetuation of our culture and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s seat has posed a challenge in consistently occupying the position amongst a small number of specialized persons qualified to fill this seat. If passed, this bill would help to promote and sustain longevity in the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for many generations hereafter. E ola mau ka ‘Ālolelo Hawaii!; the Hawaiian language will live! I respectfully and graciously request that you may please pass HB546 HD1. Mahalo Ālolelo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 2:33:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachelle Haumea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 9:24:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kakoo.

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2021 4:58:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cyrilla Manuel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

‘O Cyrilla Manuel ko‘u inoa, No Kalihi mai au, Noho au i Waianae. My name is Cyrilla Manuel, I am from Kalihi and now reside in Waiana‘e. ‘elua a‘u mo‘opuna. I have two grandchildren who are participating in the statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo. I am also a Special Education Teacher at Waiana‘e High School and currently enrolled in the Hawaiian Language course at Kapiolani Community College, which is funded by the State of Hawaii-Department of Education. The Department of Education has partnered with the University of Hawaii to provide an opportunity for teachers in the state to learn ‘OIA“lo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian Language). I am a supporter of the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language. For years our teachers at Aha Punana Leo have been asking for a Hawaiian-medium Voice on the Early Learning Board with an “invited” member status without term limits. In the efforts to revitalize and normalize the Hawaiian Language I respectfully ask for your support HB546 HD1.

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!

HB-546-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2021 9:24:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Neblett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS HB546 HD1, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, by providing Aha Punana Leo with an “invited” member status, not subject to term limits. The statewide Hawaiian language immersion opportunities furnished by Aha Punana Leo are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education programming, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing the Hawaiian language as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. The term limits imposed on Aha Punana Leo’s historically-filled seat for “Hawaiian medium early learning providers” have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled for such a small and specialized field. This bill will help better sustain the Hawaiian voice on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing the Hawaiian language for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass HB546 HD1! Mahalo nui!